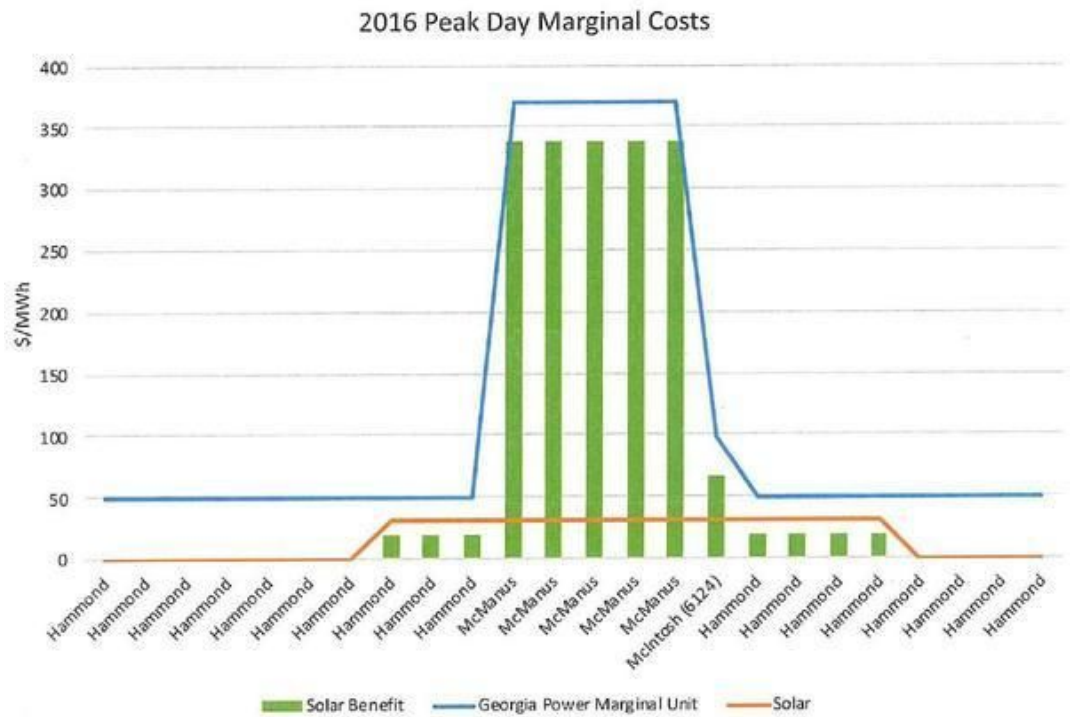


Minnesota instead has Net Metering, in which “customer may opt to receive payment or credit on next bill at the retail utility energy rate.”

<https://programs.dsireusa.org/system/program/detail/282>

Such net metering is already better than the Georgia standard of “avoided cost” payment rates from the utility to the solar power generator, which always seem to be significantly less than the retail rate the local customer pays for electricity generated by Georgia Power.

You may know Karl Rabago, the author of that 2013 study for Austin Energy. He testified before the Georgia PSC in the 2013 Georgia Power IRP case, and also this year, Document Filing #176945, Docket: 42310, May 8, 2019, in which he filed this Exhibit:



As that graph indicates, local solar generation typically produces more power than the local generator can use in the middle of the day, thus relieving load on other sources of electricity that thus do not have to (or can not) ramp up. Mid-day is also peak demand time during much of the year. It’s also where utilities typically make much of their revenue, as I testified to the PSC in June 2013. <http://www.l-a-k-e.org/blog/?p=4411>

About the current rate case, Mary Landers wrote for SavannahNow, September 30, 2019, “Hearings begin on proposed Georgia Power rate hike,”

“The Company is seeing an increasing penetration of customer solar generation on its system and expanded participation in energy efficiency. Interest in behind-the-meter customer generation is also increasing.... Additionally, new technologies like smart thermostats enable customers to make informed decisions on how and when they use our system. In fact, Georgia Power, through its Marketplace site and other channels, is responsible for the installation of nearly 100,000 smart thermostats since 2013. As customers adopt these and other supply and demand-side technologies and install more efficient appliances, the Company must be sure it can help its customers with this transition,” wrote Georgia Power’s Larry Legg.”

Charging its customers more just to connect to its grid is hardly a way to help Georgia Power’s customers. As I have argued at Southern Company stockholder meetings every